

Welcome to

Holy Trinity Parish

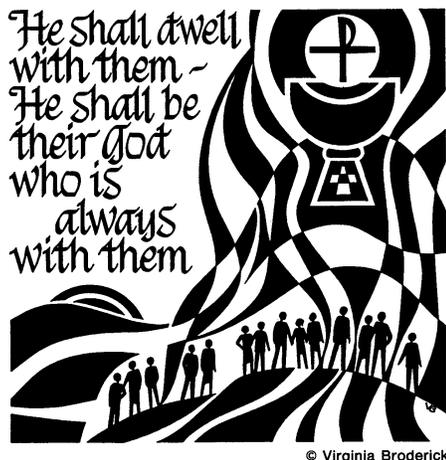
407 Cherry St.
Weston, MO 64098
www.holytrinitycatholic.org

Twelve Apostles Parish

Church: 17900 Humphrey's Rd.
Platte City, MO 64079
Office/mail address: 407 Cherry, Weston, MO 64098
www.twelveapostlescatholic.org

Telephone: 816-640-2206

5th Sunday of Easter April 24, 2016



In today's Gospel we return to the Last Supper to hear Jesus' new commandment to love one another. Good stewards, as the recipients of God's unending love, take this commandment seriously. Though we are reminded of his love throughout the year, it is Jesus' actions and words during the feast of Passover that show us the extent of his love and the way we too can live a life of stewardship: "... love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another" (John 13:34). Can we accept this commandment from Jesus? Are we able to embrace this kind of discipleship? Can we humbly offer ourselves in loving service to one another?

International Catholic Stewardship Council E-news April 2016

Mass Times:

Saturday 5:00 PM – Twelve Apostles Church
Sunday 7:30 AM – Holy Trinity Church
9:00 AM – Twelve Apostles Church
10:45AM – Holy Trinity Church

Weekday Mass times are listed inside the bulletin.

Confessions heard: Saturdays: 3:15-3:45 PM at Holy Trinity; 4:15-4:45 PM at XII Apostles; First Fridays after 8am Mass & anytime by appt.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact the pastor, preferably before going to the hospital, to receive this Sacrament.

Parish Staff:

Father Steven C. Rogers - x203, pastorHT-XII@kc.rr.com
Mrs. Julie Hoffman, Office Manager - x201, secyHT-XII@kc.rr.com
Mrs. Susanna Bartee, Holy Trinity Dir. of Rel. Ed.-x200; dreHT@kc.rr.com
Ms. Katie Troup -x304, DRE-XII Apostles: dreXII@kc.rr.com; Youth Minister--both parishes: ymht-xii@kc.rr.com
Mrs. Judy Sloan, Child Care Coordinator (offered during 7:30am & 10:45am Masses at Holy Trinity)
Mrs. Darlene Darby, Office Assistant, x202
Mr. Gary Loveless, Holy Trinity Custodian/Maintenance
Mrs. Maureen Vernon, Parishes' Safe Environment Coordinator

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Jenifer Valenti, at 816.812.2500 or JeniferValenti@att.net, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.
- The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Advocate Kathleen Chastain at 816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsi.org for more information.

Office Hours: M, W, Th, F – 9AM-Noon, 1-4PM (closed Tuesdays); PSR Office Hours: M & W–10AM-Noon, 1-4PM

Bulletin deadline: 8am Wednesday. Please notify us of change of address, phone, email, etc.

New Parishioners: Welcome! Holy Trinity and Twelve Apostles have been serving the northern Platte County area since 1842 and 2008, respectively. **We welcome all guests and newcomers to our parish families!** Newcomers are asked to register at the earliest opportunity. Forms are available in the back of church, on our websites, or from the parish office. We look forward to knowing you!

Is A Wedding or Baptism in Your Plans? Congratulations! Remember: sacramental preparation is required prior to these events. You must be a registered parishioner for the past year or have a letter from your previous pastor before dates are scheduled.

Weddings: Parishioners wanting to be married should contact Fr. Rogers nine months in advance.

Baptism: Expectant parents should contact Fr. Rogers comfortably prior to the baby's birth for baptism preparation.

First Penance/Eucharist, Confirmation: Children preparing for these sacraments must have completed the prior year of religious education.

**5th Sunday of Easter
April 24, 2016
Readings: p. 159 in *Breaking Bread***

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 23

5:00pm--XII Private Intention

Sunday, April 24

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

10:45am-HT +Leo Schreiner

Mon, April 25, 8am-HT Private Intention

Wed, April 27, 8am-HT +Armand & Amelia D'Amore

Thu, April 28, 6pm-XII +Lorene Sabo

Fri, April 29, 8am-HT Private Intention

Saturday, April 30

5:00pm--XII Parishioners of XII Apostles

Sunday, May 1

7:30am-HT Parishioners of Holy Trinity

9:00am--XII +Cheri Ann Menk

10:45am-HT Private Intention

BLESSING BAGS DONATIONS NEEDED:

**Our May focus for the Year of Mercy will be:
"To Feed the Hungry"**

For our work of mercy for May, we will be assembling **Blessing Bags**—zippered bags filled with food to hand out to the needy—on Saturday, May 14, at 6pm at XII Apostles.

Donations are needed to fill the bags. At the entrance of each of our churches you will find a table with cards listing the donations needed. You are invited to choose one or more cards — fill out your name on the top card and drop it in the box/basket — keep the duplicate card as a reminder. We ask that donations be returned to the same area by Sunday, May 8.

Join us for assembling the bags on Saturday, May 14 — this is a family event!

We'll begin with grilled hot dogs, chips, and ice cream sundaes, provided by Twelve Apostles' Knights of Columbus and Women's Group, at 6pm, followed by assembling the bags. Those who wish will be invited to take bags to distribute to the needy as desired. Our goal is to fill at least 200 bags. All are invited!



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS & VISITORS!

Welcome to Holy Trinity and Twelve Apostles! If you are just visiting, we pray that you have a wonderful visit and a safe return journey. If you are new to our parish, please take a moment to introduce yourselves and register with us. Forms are available in the vestibule of the churches or from the parish office (816-640-2206).

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The 20's and 30's Group will meet Mondays April 18, 25, May 2, 6:15-7:45pm at the home of Chris and Katie Barmann, 17605 N Braeburn Ct, Platte City. Free child care at Seven Bridges Clubhouse—6pm drop off. We are privileged to have Troy Hinkel, who teaches in the Archdiocese of KCK, as our guest speaker for this 3 week course titled "**God's Battle Plan: Mary's Role and Ours.**" Come and learn how to respond to Our Lady's messages—messages given not just to the children at Fatima but also through saints and Popes—and thus prepare the world for God's graces during this Year of Mercy.

SPRING CLEANING ON YOUR MIND?



The Youth Group will have a garage sale at Holy Trinity in Weston on June 3-4. We need your donations! Please start setting aside things you no longer want/need! We will begin accepting donations May 2.

FOOD COLLECTION: Next weekend is the monthly food collection for United Services food pantry (located in Tracy). This organization gives food and other items to those in our community who need it. Most needed: oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, crackers, soup, "box meals," pasta, pasta sauce, snacks, juice, and personal hygiene and cleaning items. Any non-perishable item is appreciated. Place your items in the marked box located at the back of both churches. Thanks for your generosity.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS for all.....

PANCAKE and SAUSAGE BREAKFAST--this Sunday, April 24 at the Northland Career Center cafeteria in Platte City. Contact chairman Paul Bobowski at (816) 668-7199 or at skibos@embarqmail.com to volunteer to help, donate supplies and/or make financial contributions.

Opportunities to Join the Knights of Columbus--Catholic gentlemen interested in becoming a member of the Knights may join on one of the following dates: (1) Tuesday, May 3, 2016, at Council No.3414 in Gladstone, MO; (2) Monday, May 9 at St. Therese Parish in Parkville, MO. Contact Steve Steiger, Grand Knight of Twelve Apostles Council No.16189, at (816) 431-6506 or at scsteiger@yahoo.com for information.

Help needed for Year of Mercy Picnic May 14--Volunteers are needed to grill and serve hot dogs for the Year of Mercy picnic on Saturday, May 14, at 6:00 PM at Twelve Apostles. Contact Chairman Paul Bobowski at (816) 668-7199 or at skibos@embarqmail.com to volunteer.

K.C. Royals Family Day Sunday, June 26--Kansas City Royals host the Houston Astros at 1:15 PM. EVERYONE (Knights and their guests) may purchase tickets in Section 248 (1st base side) at reduced prices at \$33 each. Price includes ticket to the game, tailgating meal and a donation to the OUT-PACE POVERTY program conducted by our Diocese. Tickets are limited, and MUST BE PURCHASED BY MAY 20. Contact Knights Chairman Dave Dillon in Marshall, MO, at (660) 815-3296, and tell him you are from either Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 in Platte City or from Holy Trinity Council No.12288 in Weston.

Council Officer Nominations--Twelve Apostles Council No.16189 will elect its officers for the 2016-2017 Fraternal Year at its next meeting on May 11, 2016. Contact either Financial Secretary Michael Robertson at (573) 268-6209 or Jack Greene at (816) 431-6997 if you are interested in serving as an officer. All officers must be at least 3rd Degree members.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

Congratulations to Holy Trinity's 2016 First



Communicants: Catelyn Carlson, Peyton Cook, Katheryn Kalic, Grant Phillips and Noah Rees. We are thrilled to join in your special day this Sunday, April 24, and pray God's sweet blessings on you now and always.

PSR News: **May Crowning** will take place at 7:30am Mass next Sunday, May 1.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL CHAIR NEEDED:

CAN YOU ORGANIZE OUR ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL?

Our annual Ice Cream Social will be held the first Sunday of August, the 7th, at the parish hall in Weston. This year's proceeds will go towards updates in the church vestibule. We are in need of someone/s to volunteer as chairperson/s. It is never too early to get started, but planning should be underway by May at the latest. Detailed records from past socials are on file to assist organizers. Contact the parish office to take a look!

EASTER PLANTS: All who donated plants for Easter are welcome to pick up one of the plants, found near the patio on the bricks.

ROSARY FOR THE UNBORN — Our first-of-the-month rosary will be offered in the church at 10:05AM next Sunday. Our prayer intention for the monthly

SAVE-THE-DATE:

Father Steven will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of his ordination on June 3. A committee from both parishes is planning two events.

Please mark your calendars for the following:

Friday, June 3rd, 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity, with Bishop Johnston. We hope to fill the church with prayer and song!

Sunday, June 5th after the **10:45** Mass at Holy Trinity, we will continue the celebration with an Open House reception. (We will be asking for donations of food in May.)

KATIE'S CORNER YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Youth group: Grades 7-12

Camp Savio for current 6th - 8th graders: June 6-11, contact Katie if you are interested! **Camp Bosco** for current 9th - 12th graders: June 21-24, contact Katie if you are interested!

We are now on the summer schedule; incoming 7th graders are invited to begin attending youth group. You should have received a schedule in the mail. It is also available on our web-sites -www.twelveapostlescatholic.org/youth or www.holytrinitycatholic.org/youth

Confirmation registration is now available online -
www.holytrinitycatholic.org/confirmation
or www.twelveapostlescatholic.org/confirmation.

If you are interested in next year's confirmation program but did not attend one of the informational meetings, please contact Katie Troup to get the necessary information:
ymht-xii@kc.rr.com

Save the Date: Float Trip July 11-13, 2016



TWELVE APOSTLES NEWS



Please keep our First Communicants in prayer as they make their First Communion this Saturday, April 23, at the 5pm Mass - Julia Babcock, Abbey Bures, Sam Chase, Jack Coon, Reese Demory, Landon Grisham, Cameron Habel, Grace Handke, Hannah Mills, Jack Shroyer, Andrew Shupe, Noah Smiley, Madi Smith, Noah Smith, John Trelow, Indigo Teufel, Clare Welch, & Gabriel Wittel.

PANCAKE and SAUSAGE BREAKFAST--

Twelve Apostles Knights of Columbus invite EVERYONE to attend our final Pancake and Sausage breakfast of this PSR school season **this Sunday, April 24, beginning at 9:50am,** at the Northland Career Center cafeteria. ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS BREAKFAST WILL BE DONATED TO THE YOUTH FROM TWELVE APOSTLES AND HOLY TRINITY WHO WILL BE ATTENDING WORLD YOUTH DAY IN POLAND IN JULY 2016. We need your financial support.



May Crowning May 1: The Little Flowers Girls Club will be crowning the image of Mary next Sunday, May 1, at 8:45am. ALL children of the parish are invited to bring a flower/s at 8:45 to lay at Mary's feet.

9AM CHOIR NEWS: The 9am choir will begin regular practices on Tuesday nights at 7pm. We would welcome more vocalists, teens and adults. We are also looking for another pianist. Members need only come to practice either on Tuesday evenings or Sundays at 8:15 am. Questions? Contact Jeanne Witsken at witsken@hotmail.com or 913-306-4344.

50th Wedding Anniversary: Steve and Judy Steiger of Twelve Apostles will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 7. They were married on May 7, 1966, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Montrose, Missouri. **All parishioners of Twelve Apostles and Holy Trinity** are invited to a reception at the home of Matt & Angie Magnuson, 13900 Cole Trail, Platte City, on Saturday, May 7, at 2:00 PM to celebrate with the Steigers. No RSVP necessary.

SEVERE WEATHER PLANS:

With tornado season approaching, in the event severe weather sirens go off during Mass:

The plan at **Holy Trinity** is to head over to the parish hall basement.

At **Twelve Apostles**, Mass attendees should head to the basement, staying away from the windows. Those unable to navigate the stairs should go to the elevator closet or bathrooms.

If Communion is being distributed, Eucharistic ministers should first put the Body and Blood of Christ in the tabernacle.

Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration: A Mass honoring all couples in the diocese celebrating 50 years of marriage in the year 2016 will be celebrated by Bishop Johnston at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 5, 2016 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The liturgy will be followed with a dessert reception and is for couples and their immediate family. This celebration will include all couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016. If you were married in 1966, please contact the parish office by May 16 so that you can be acknowledged. You will be acknowledged even if you cannot attend the event.

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN.....

Johnny was a clown. No, he wasn't a crazy, scary clown of the carnival class. He was kind and gentle and funny. He never wore a big red nose; there wasn't a painted tear drop on his cheek; he didn't wear big floppy shoes or big baggy pants. He didn't have a horn to honk or a rubber chicken he could pull out of a hat. No flowers to squirt water. No pens to squirt ink. No whipped cream pies. No buckets of confetti. Still, he caught people by surprise and made them smile. Johnny was claustrophobic; he was afraid to be under the big top. He had a bum leg and never walked in a parade. He couldn't mime to save his soul; he was afraid of being trapped in an invisible box. Still, Johnny was a clown. He had a joke for every occasion. He had a laugh for everyone he met. He had a joy that was infectious. He had a smile that could soften a bearded lady's cold-blooded disposition. A stiff leg didn't hold him down; Johnny waltzed throughout life. There was a spark in Johnny that set a blaze of glory in the world around him. No magic. No tricks. No tomfoolery. Just a genuine, happy guy.

I met Johnny on his 80th birthday. He had aged well; he looked 50. We became fast friends. He and his wife Linda had married late in life, they never had children of their own, but it was hard to know that because so many children had embraced them throughout their life. Every day at their house was a party. A wonderful carnival-like atmosphere filled the back yard with laughter and shrills of excitement. Lots of music was made in the joy that was exchanged there. Johnny was always in the middle of the fun.

Five years later, we celebrated Johnny's 85th birthday. He was as youthful as ever. It wasn't easy to catch Johnny; he was a man on the go. When I finally caught up with him over a slice of his chocolate birthday cake and a glass of Coke, he shared his insight to a lifetime of happiness and longevity. "Gratitude!" he said. Puzzled, I asked, "That's it? That's all?" "Yep!" I smiled. "Father, when you give thanks to God, show him gratitude for the things he does, you don't have a worry in your life; you don't think about tomorrow because you're happy with today. Gratitude helps you to hold onto God, and you never look away. Gratitude helps you to see a thimble full of God's blessings as something just as wonderful as if it were a big gulp of God's blessings. You don't need to super-size it when you have gratitude!" There's no clowning around with that. Simple. Full. Profound. "Oh, and one more thing, Father. Being grateful takes away the fear of dying. Jesus already done that for me. That makes me smile."

Seven months later, Johnny came to Mass as he did every Sunday. He sat in the same spot in the same pew he had sat in for 67 years. "Three rows from the back, close to the door! Just in case one of them calls me, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (he pointed out one for each pew), I'm going to get out of here and fast," he laughed. Every Sunday Johnny would stop and shake my hand and say goodbye by telling me a joke, an anecdote to make me smile. That Sunday, no joke.

Johnny looked square into my eyes and said, "Father, before I die, would you please fix that no-parking sign out front of your house; people don't need to park there. You might need a quick get-away. I might need you for something!" No smile. No story. Nothing. "I'll fix it today." I assured him. He no more than crossed the threshold of the church entrance before he turned back and looked me square in the eyes. Saying nothing he smiled and waved bye-bye. Johnny made me smile. Immediately after greeting everyone, I went to the driveway of my house and fixed the no-parking sign, all the while thinking, "That'll make Johnny happy."

Johnny died the following Tuesday, peacefully at home. No fanfare. No drama. No warning. Before he took his last breath he turned to his wife Linda and said, "You're the best. You're the reason I smile. You make me laugh. Thank you! I'll see you on the other side." He waved bye-bye, closed his eyes and passed away holding onto God with a smile on his face. I will never forget what Johnny taught me. "Gratitude! Gratitude helps you to hold onto God."

The Rule of Saint Benedict says, "Keep death daily before your eyes." To be honest, I have never liked that rule. Sure, I get it, Saint Benedict believed that death should never take a person entirely by surprise. Death isn't something we should clown around with.

For most of us though, thinking of death causes us fear and sadness. Thoughts of death bog us down. Yes, we say we trust in Jesus. We say we have hope. We say we believe. But trusting is hard, especially with death, and so we have fear.

After my time with Johnny, I decided to change the rule, to come up with one that is much better. It works. Here's the Rule of Father Steven C., "Keep the Resurrection daily before your eyes!" Living with our focus on the Resurrection helps us to live in gratitude. Johnny said, "Being grateful takes away the fear of dying. Jesus already done that for me!" Johnny is right. Gratitude helps us to live fully, not to live endlessly. Gratitude helps us to be ready to go and fast, whenever God calls us to our eternal reward. Living in the past impedes our joy and hope for the future. Gratitude helps us to embrace the present moment

Think about it; all we really have is the present moment. The present does indeed gather into itself the wisdom garnered through past experience and the liveliness inspired by future hope. There is wisdom in gratitude. Gratitude helps us to hold onto hope. "Gratitude helps you to hold onto God!"

I have come to realize Saint Benedict isn't asking us to be morbid when he told us to keep death daily before our eyes, to keep not just any death before us, but ours. Rather, he was asking us to be wise; know your reality, cherish it, live it fruitfully right this minute, growing in your awareness that Christ is with you in this little here and now, making you ready, and though you making your world ready, for that day when "now" will open out into the "forever." That's how Johnny lived his earthly life. This we can anticipate with great hope, belief, trust and joy. Keeping the Resurrection daily before our eyes is a way of appreciating here, appreciating now, our many blessings. "You don't need to supersize it when you have gratitude!"

If you knew you were about to die, what wisdom would you impart to your loved ones in your final moments? What's most important for them to learn from you? If you knew you were about to Resurrect, what wisdom would you impart to your loved ones? Resurrection is all about the Glory of God. Glory is the radiating light of God's presence, his love, his joy, his holiness, his peace, his wisdom, his creativity, and everything else. When we glorify God, we are reflecting back to him this same glory.

Glory radiates God's love. Love is not love unless it unselfishly gives itself to others. Jesus unselfishly gave himself to us completely, even in death. Followers of Jesus are not true followers unless they serve with love, in love, and through love. We cannot have love unless we have gratitude, unless we live in gratitude.

We reflect on a scene from the Passion of Christ this Sunday while celebrating Easter, the Resurrection. At this point we are ready to move on from the passion and death. How odd or morbid it is, you might say, that we are still talking about death when we should be focusing on the glory of the Resurrection.

Here's why: Our Lord wants us to have life in abundance. He wants us to focus on the whole story. Rather than focus on a part of the story, the Gospel, we are to turn our attention to all the readings. The readings for this Sunday are full of Easter joy. Jesus says, "Behold, I make all things new!" That's the Resurrection.

Jesus imparts to us the key to continuing the mission of sharing God's glory, which Jesus began and calls each of us to do. We share God's glory by living in gratitude. By loving one another in a spirit of sacrifice, we are showing the world that Jesus is real, he is risen, and he is alive in us.

In Christ,

